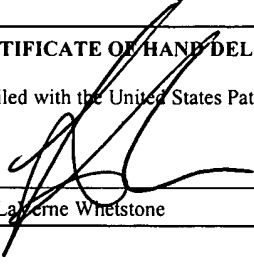


#3

PATENT  
Docket No. 325772018800

**CERTIFICATE OF HAND DELIVERY**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being hand filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office in Washington, D.C. on August 4, 2000.

  
Laverne Wheelstone

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the application of:

Atsushi TOMITA et al.

Serial No.: Not yet Assigned

Filing Date: August 4, 2000

For: CENTRAL MANAGEMENT  
APPARATUS AND MANAGEMENT  
SYSTEM

Examiner: Not yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not yet Assigned

jc893 U.S. PTO  
09/633229  
08/04/00

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the documents are also submitted herewith. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☒ Within three months of the application filing date or before mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.

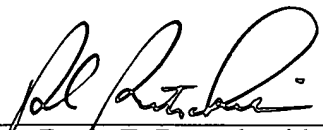
Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO-1449, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 is to the best of my knowledge and is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing 325772018800. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: August 4, 2000

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
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Form PTO-1449

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number 325772018800

Application Number Not yet Assigned

Applicant

Atsushi TOMITA et al.

Filing Date August 4, 2000

Group Art Unit Not yet Assigned

Mailing Date August 4, 2000

1c893 U.S. Pat.  
09/633229  
08/04/00

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Date	Document No.	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	1.	8/3/99	5,933,675	Sawada et al.			
	2.	4/22/86	4,583,834	Seko et al.			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Date	Document No.	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation YES NO

## OTHER DOCUMENTS

(including author, title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Title

EXAMINER: (examiner)

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not the citation conforms with MPEP 609. Draw a line through the citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.